



Sunday, October 4, 2026

10:00 a.m.



“In Good Hands”

Pastor Erik Allen





# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude      “Two Settings of ‘If You But Trust in God to Guide You’ “  
J. S. Bach and John Behnke

Announcements

## GATHERING

Song      Ancient Words

### Call to Worship

P: Come, remember the God who planted and nurtured the vine.

**C: We gather to praise the One whose care has sustained us.**

P: When the walls fall and what we love is threatened, we cry out to God.

**C: Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see.**

P: Come, tend the vine your own hand has planted.

**C: Restore your people and renew us by your grace.**

P: Let your face shine upon us, O God.

**C: Save us, strengthen us, and draw us together in worship.**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: And also with you!**

*(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)*

Song      He Who Began a Good Work in You

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

**C: Amen.**

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate God,



**into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*please be seated*

**Offering**     *On each 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday we collect a special offering for World Hunger through ELCA. If you would like to donate, you may do so online or baskets are available when you come up for Communion.*

If you would like, you may give online by scanning the QR code  
or Offering Plates are located at the back of the Sanctuary.



**Offering Hymn**

**In the Singing**

**ELW 466**

**Offering Prayer**

**P:**     God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

**C:     Amen.**

**Prayers of the Church** (the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.)

Members: Cheryl, Anita, Sue, Sally, Vickie

Family & Friends: Susan, Anna, Kate, Mark, Mike, Lucille, Margie,  
Joe, Wes, Emily, Karla, Leon, Dee, Dale, Carol

**COMMUNION**

**Words of Institution**

## The Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!**

## Invitation to Communion

P: Christ invites you to this table.  
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

*please be seated.*

## Distribution

*All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome.*

*Those who do not wish to take Communion may come forward for a blessing.*

*Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.*

## SENDING

### Blessing

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: The God of grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Song

I Do Believe

### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

"Fugue in C"

Dietrich Buxtehude

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### New Church Directory

For Starters ....

If you haven't signed up via Flocknote, please do so. We will be taking pictures for the next three weeks. You can also show up Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10-2 and we can take your picture.

How we will collect data:

In an effort to protect the privacy of your children, we will NOT be asking for cell phone numbers or email addresses for non-adults.

There are two ways to supply updated directory information. If you prefer not to submit your information online, there are forms at the Ushers' Table that you can fill out. Bring them when you have your picture(s) taken or you can leave them on my desk, especially if you plan to send an existing picture.

Preferably, however, you may use the following link to input data into the database for you, and if applicable, your spouse and children. If you have adult children that are involved with KOG and wish to be included as "head of household," we ask that they fill out a separate form. The link is:

<https://kogcarmel.org/directory>

We also need pictures:

Each individual in our directory should have an individual photo. Cell phone quality is fine. You can email an individual photo to Leslie.French@KOGCarmel.org or come to the church to have one taken. If you are submitting pictures for multiple people, please name the pictures, so we know who is who.

We also would like to have a family picture, as the individual profiles will be organized by family in the directory. You can have a family picture taken at the church, email an electronic copy of a picture you already have, or have someone snap a cell phone photo. These should also be submitted to Leslie.French@KOGCarmel.org. We can add the family photos to the database at any time. If it is more convenient to have one taken when the family is gathered for the holidays, it is fine to submit a family photo later. And it is not a problem if your picture includes more of the clan than just those profiled in the directory.

Having pictures taken at church:

You can use the Sign-Up Genius provided through Flocknote to schedule a time on a Sunday morning in October to have your picture taken (one time slot should

be sufficient even for a family). We will be using the Huxhold Conference Room in the Office area (in the hallway between Pastor Erik's and Neisha's offices). Photo times will be scheduled at 9:00, 9:10, 9:20, 9:30 and 9:40 and also at 11:10, 11:20, 11:30, 11:40 and 11:50 on October 4, October 11, October 18 and October 25.

PLEASE BE CERTAIN TO SUBMIT YOUR DIRECTORY INFORMATION AT THE SAME TIME OR BEFORE YOU HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN.

When we are finished, we will have an electronic directory that you can use to reach people affiliated with King of Glory. Not all of the information we are gathering will be available to others online (an example is your date of birth). Eventually you will have an access code so that you can update your personal information when needed.

Thank you to Neisha who created the electronic form and to Susan who is helping coordinate this effort!

With your cooperation, we should have a quality and amazingly informative KOG Directory!

---

---

Save the Date  
Trunk & Treat  
Wednesday, October 28, 6:00-7:00



## **Christian Ed and Bible Studies**

### **Sunday Morning Children's Programming**

Sunday morning programming for all students is at 9:00 back in the Cross & Crown section of the building. Students in K-5th grade will meet in the Gloryland area. Lead teachers for this group are Brandon Hulse and Liz Lichtenberger, with several assistants.

### **Confirmation Sunday at 9:00**

The class is called *Faith Conversations with Pastor Erik; Confirmation & Beyond*. High School students are welcome (encouraged!) to attend as this gives our older youth a chance to keep exploring and refining what they believe. Pastor Erik believes their experiences and questions will add a great deal to the conversation. Join us in the Cross & Crown area.

### **Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study**

Join us Wednesday mornings in the Cross & Crown area from 8:30 to 10:00. The resource is The Wired Word which uses current events as lesson topics for each meeting. Relevant scripture is provided to guide the group's discussion in applying the lesson to our faith in today's world. Come and join us as we dig into God's Word together!

### **WOW (Women on Wednesday)**

We meet in the Parlor from 9:15-11:00 each Wednesday morning. We have ladies new to studying the Bible along with those more experienced, but rest assured, all are welcome! We are currently studying "Matthew, Together by Grace Bible Conversations."

### **KOG Women's Book Club**

The group will be reading "The Ragamuffin Gospel" by Brennan Manning this fall. Group meets 2nd Friday of the month in the Parlor. Contact for questions is Kathy Peterson 317 402-1847.

## WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

**THEME OF THE WEEK:** God is our helper. In mercy, God meets us as we are and gives us what we need for this life and the life to come. God redeems and rescues us, joining us to Christ, the true vine. David's Son and Lord is our Savior and King, whose life-giving Word fills us with renewed joy. The texts for this week's meditations reveal God's gentleness toward sinners, God's power to save, and the continually surprising miracle of God's grace in our lives. They remind us that our love for God and our neighbors begins with God's steadfast love for us in Christ.

### **SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 22:34–4. Love on the Cross**

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart...and...you shall love your neighbor as yourself." If someone asked what such love looks like, we could do no better than to point to the cross. There Jesus cries the words of Psalm 22, giving voice to all who feel abandoned: "My God, my God." Surrounded by violence and rejection, Jesus refuses to answer hatred with hatred. Instead, Jesus prays, "Father, forgive them." On the cross, we see God entering fully into human suffering and loving the world even at its worst. By this love we are forgiven, reconciled, and made new. Because Christ has first loved us, we are freed to love God and our neighbors. *Gracious God, teach us to receive your love and to share it generously with others. Amen.*

### **MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:137–144 Our Delight in God**

In Baptism we are joined to Christ's death and resurrection. Each day, God calls us to die to sin and rise to new life. We remain people who struggle with sin, yet the Holy Spirit continues creating and renewing us in the image of Christ. The psalmist declares, "My zeal consumes me," even while acknowledging trouble and anguish. This psalm is not a claim that we earn God's favor by keeping the law. God's grace is already ours. Because Christ has claimed us, God's instruction becomes a gift that guides us toward love of God and care for our neighbors. Even amid trouble, God's promises remain trustworthy and God's way remains our delight. *Gracious God, renew us through Christ and teach us to delight in your life-giving Word. Amen.*

### **TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 1:4–9 Paul's Thankful Example**

Paul often begins his letters with thanksgiving—even when there are challenges facing those he's writing to. Here he does not pretend that the divisions and struggles among the Corinthian Christians are unimportant. Yet before addressing their problems, Paul remembers the grace God has already given them in Christ. He gives thanks for their faith, their gifts, and the ways the Spirit is at work among them as they await Christ's return. Paul's gratitude rests upon the faithfulness of God, who has called these imperfect people into fellowship with Jesus Christ. Paul sees the Corinthians—and himself—through the lens of God's mercy. And it's that realization that allows him to give thanks even in difficult circumstances! *Faithful God, give us grateful hearts and help us recognize your grace at work in others and in ourselves. Amen.*

### **WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 10:12–21 Unmerited Love**

The God of gods and Lord of lords set God's heart in love upon Israel. Israel was not chosen because the people were more deserving than others. God's covenantal love begins in God's own grace and faithfulness. Christians hear this promise not as the replacement of Israel, but as a witness to God's enduring faithfulness and the grace by which God gathers us in Christ. This grace also shapes how God's people live. The One who loves the orphan, the widow, and the stranger commands us to love the stranger and seek justice for those who are vulnerable. God's single-hearted love continually frees us to love and serve our neighbors. *Faithful God, help us walk in your ways, trusting your grace and sharing your love with all people. Amen.*

### **THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: John 15:1–17 The Vine and Branches**

Where do the branches end and the vine begin? Jesus distinguishes between them—the branches are not the vine—yet the branches cannot live or bear fruit apart from the vine. Christ is the source of the church's life. In worship, the Holy Spirit joins us anew to Christ through Word and Sacrament. When the Gospel is proclaimed, forgiveness is declared, and Christ's body and blood are shared, we receive the life of the vine through these ordinary and tangible means of grace. These are not treasures the church possesses for itself; they are Christ's promises given for the life of the world. Nourished by Christ, we bear the fruit of love by serving our neighbors. *Lord Jesus, keep us connected to you and bear the fruit of your love through us. Amen.*

### **FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: 1 John 3:1–8. For This Purpose**

"For this reason the Son of God was revealed: to destroy the works of the devil." 1st John's strong words do not mean that Christians no longer struggle with sin. Earlier in the letter he reminds us that if we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves. Rather, sin no longer defines us or has the final word over our lives. Through Christ's death and resurrection, the powers of sin, death, and evil have been broken. In Baptism, we belong to Christ, and Christ's life is ours. We therefore live from forgiveness, resisting whatever harms our neighbors and trusting God to renew us each day. *Lord Jesus, keep us in your forgiveness, strengthen us against evil, and lead us in the freedom of your abundant life. Amen.*

### **SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 54 One Faithful Helper**

The psalms are honest about the many challenges of this life. Some people face real threats, and the church must never dismiss their suffering. Yet we do not need to turn every opponent into an enemy or imagine ourselves persecuted whenever someone disagrees with us. We can pray this psalm in solidarity with all who are threatened and name the powers that truly seek to destroy life: sin, death, evil, and systems of violence and injustice. The psalmist does not claim the right to seek revenge, but entrusts judgment and deliverance to God: "God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life." God sustains us—and often does so through the care and courage of our neighbors! *O God, save us by your name, uphold all who are in danger, and make us instruments of your peace. Amen.*

